

HO-1070
Fairbank House
1684 Woodstock Road
Private

Description

The Fairbank House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay frame structure with a "T" plan, or footprint. It has a rubble stone foundation, asbestos shingle siding, and a gable roof with a northwest-southeast ridge on the ell (which forms the crossbar of the "T") and a northeast-southwest ridge on the main block. There is an interior brick chimney where the main block and ell ridges meet. There is a two-story pantry ell off the southwest side of the ell, at the west end, and a two-story enclosed porch between the pantry ell and the main block. The southeast elevation of the main block is set back one bay from the plane of the ell, is two bays, and has a two-over-two sash in the south bay and a doorway in the east bay. There is a porch that extends across the whole front of the house, and it is just a little bit deeper than the front ell, creating a pent roof across the southeast elevation of this ell. The porch extends to the northeast of the house by one bay. The southeast elevation of the front ell has a two-story, three-sided bay. There is a gable above the bay, with both corners projecting beyond the canted walls of the bay and supported by sawn brackets that have a fan pattern on them. There is a pent roof above the bay and a semi-circular arched two-over-two sash in the gable end. The ground slopes down to the northwest, exposing the basement.

Significance

The Fairbank House is built on a 2-acre lot that Henry Fairbank bought from Elizabeth Wilson and the Bennetts in 1897 for only \$200. Presumably Fairbank built his new house shortly after buying the property. The house is certainly consistent with the 1890-1910 period, being what has sometimes been referred to as a Homestead Ell house. The plan is basically a reversal of the traditional I-house with a rear ell, in that the ell is pushed to the front. In many cases, as with the Fairbank House, the front end of the ell is given a three-sided bay for visual interest. Other popular dwelling features of the period are used on these houses, and found here, as well, including the wrap-around porch, decorative brackets where the gable overhangs the clipped corners of the bay, gabled wall dormers, and pent roofs. The Fairbank House ell extends to the rear of the main block, forming a "T" plan and making it more spacious than some. Fairbank is listed in the 1910 census as a 54-year-old farmer. It is not known whether he had a separate farm of his own adjacent to this land, tenanted a farm and chose to build his own house, or worked on another farm in the area. Living with him was his brother, Frank, who was a carpenter. This raises the possibility that Frank Fairbank was the builder of Henry's house.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1070

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Fairbank House

other

2. Location

street and number 1684 Woodstock Road not for publication

city, town Woodstock X vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alvin Mullinex

street and number 1684 Woodstock Road telephone

city, town Woodstock state MD zip code 21163

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 843 folio 706

city, town Ellicott City tax map 10 tax parcel 157 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Current Function | Resource Count |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | Contributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> defense | 1 buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic | 0 sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | | <input type="checkbox"/> education | 0 structures |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary | 0 objects |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> government | 1 Total |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> health care | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> social | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: | |
| | | | Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory |
| | | | 0 |

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1070

Condition

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

The Fairbank House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay frame structure with a "T" plan, or footprint. It has a rubble stone foundation, asbestos shingle siding, and a gable roof with a northwest-southeast ridge on the ell (which forms the crossbar of the "T") and a northeast-southwest ridge on the main block. There is an interior brick chimney where the main block and ell ridges meet. There is a two-story pantry ell off the southwest side of the ell, at the west end, and a two-story enclosed porch between the pantry ell and the main block. The southeast elevation of the main block is set back one bay from the plane of the ell, is two bays, and has a two-over-two sash in the south bay and a doorway in the east bay. There is a porch that extends across the whole front of the house, and it is just a little bit deeper than the front ell, creating a pent roof across the southeast elevation of this ell. The porch extends to the northeast of the house by one bay. The southeast elevation of the front ell has a two-story, three-sided bay. There is a gable above the bay, with both corners projecting beyond the canted walls of the bay and supported by sawn brackets that have a fan pattern on them. There is a pent roof above the bay and a semi-circular arched two-over-two sash in the gable end. The ground slopes down to the northwest, exposing the basement.

Description:

The Fairbank House is located at 1684 Woodstock Road, about one mile southwest of Woodstock, in north-central Howard County, Maryland. The house is located on the northwest side of the road, on a generally flat lot, and sits fairly close to the road. It faces southeast toward the road. It is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by three-bay frame structure with a "T" plan, or footprint. It has a rubble stone foundation, asbestos shingle siding, and a gable roof with a northwest-southeast ridge on the ell (which forms the crossbar of the "T") and a northeast-southwest ridge on the main block. There is an interior brick chimney where the main block and ell ridges meet. There is a two-story pantry ell off the southwest side of the ell, at the west end, and a two-story enclosed porch between the pantry ell and the main block.

The southeast elevation of the main block is set back one bay from the plane of the ell, is two bays, and has a two-over-two sash in the south bay and a doorway in the east bay. The second story has two two-over-two sash. There is a porch that extends across the whole front of the house, and it is just a little bit deeper than the front ell, creating a pent roof across the southeast elevation of this ell. The porch extends to the northeast of the house by one bay. The southeast elevation of the front ell has a two-story, three-sided bay with a one-over-one sash on each side on both stories of the bay. There is a gable above the bay, with both corners projecting beyond the canted walls of the bay and supported by sawn brackets that have a fan pattern on them. There is a pent roof above the bay and a semi-circular arched two-over-two sash in the gable end.

Maryland Historical Trust

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Name
Continuation Sheet

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The northeast elevation, on the first story, has a two-over-one sash in the east bay, and this bay is covered by the front porch. The center bay has short, paired one-over-one sash, and the siding below them is newer and appears to be patched. The north bay has a one-over-one sash. On the second story, the east and center bays each have a one-over-one sash and the north bay has a wider one-light sash in what appears to be an altered opening. The center of the roof has a gabled wall dormer with a semi-circular arched two-over-two sash and a pent roof below it.

The southwest elevation of the main block has a two-over-two sash on each story, and the gable end has a semi-circular arched two-over-two sash with a pent roof below it. The northwest elevation of the ell has a shortened window in an altered opening in the first story and a one-over-one sash in the second story. On the southwest elevation of the ell, the two story porch has been enclosed with modern windows and doors. The ground slopes down to the northwest, exposing the basement. The southwest elevation of the pantry ell has a doorway in the basement and a one-over-one sash on both stories.

About 50 feet north of the house is a frame two-car garage with T1-11 siding and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. The southeast end has two wide openings and the northwest elevation has two one-over-one sash.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1070

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ | |

Specific dates N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1897-98

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Fairbank House is built on a 2-acre lot that Henry Fairbank bought from Elizabeth Wilson and the Bennetts in 1897 for only \$200. Presumably Fairbank built his new house shortly after buying the property, though no documentary evidence could be found to date the building. The house is certainly consistent with the 1890-1910 period, being what has sometimes been referred to as a Homestead Ell house. The plan is basically a reversal of the traditional I-house with a rear ell, in that the ell is pushed to the front. In many cases, as with the Fairbank House, the front end of the ell is given a three-sided bay for visual interest. Other popular dwelling features of the period are used on these houses, and found here, as well, including the wrap-around porch, decorative brackets where the gable overhangs the clipped corners of the bay, gabled wall dormers, and pent roofs. The Fairbank House ell extends to the rear of the main block, forming a "T" plan and making it more spacious than some. It also contains a pantry extension off of the rear ell, with a porch tucked between the pantry and the main block (the porch is now closed in). This is a traditional farmhouse feature in the piedmont, such as Carroll and Frederick counties, but is rarely found in Howard County farmhouses. Its presence here is curious.

Fairbank is listed in the 1910 census as a 54-year-old farmer. It is not known whether he had a separate farm of his own adjacent to this land, tenanted a farm and chose to build his own house, or worked on another farm in the area. Living with him was his brother, Frank, who was a carpenter. This raises the possibility that Frank Fairbank was the builder of Henry's house. Fairbank's children sold the house in 1942 to Robert and Amos Mullinex, and it remains in the Mullinex family to this day.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1070

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.703 A
Acreage of historical setting 2 A
Quadrangle name Sykesville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 10, parcel 157, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

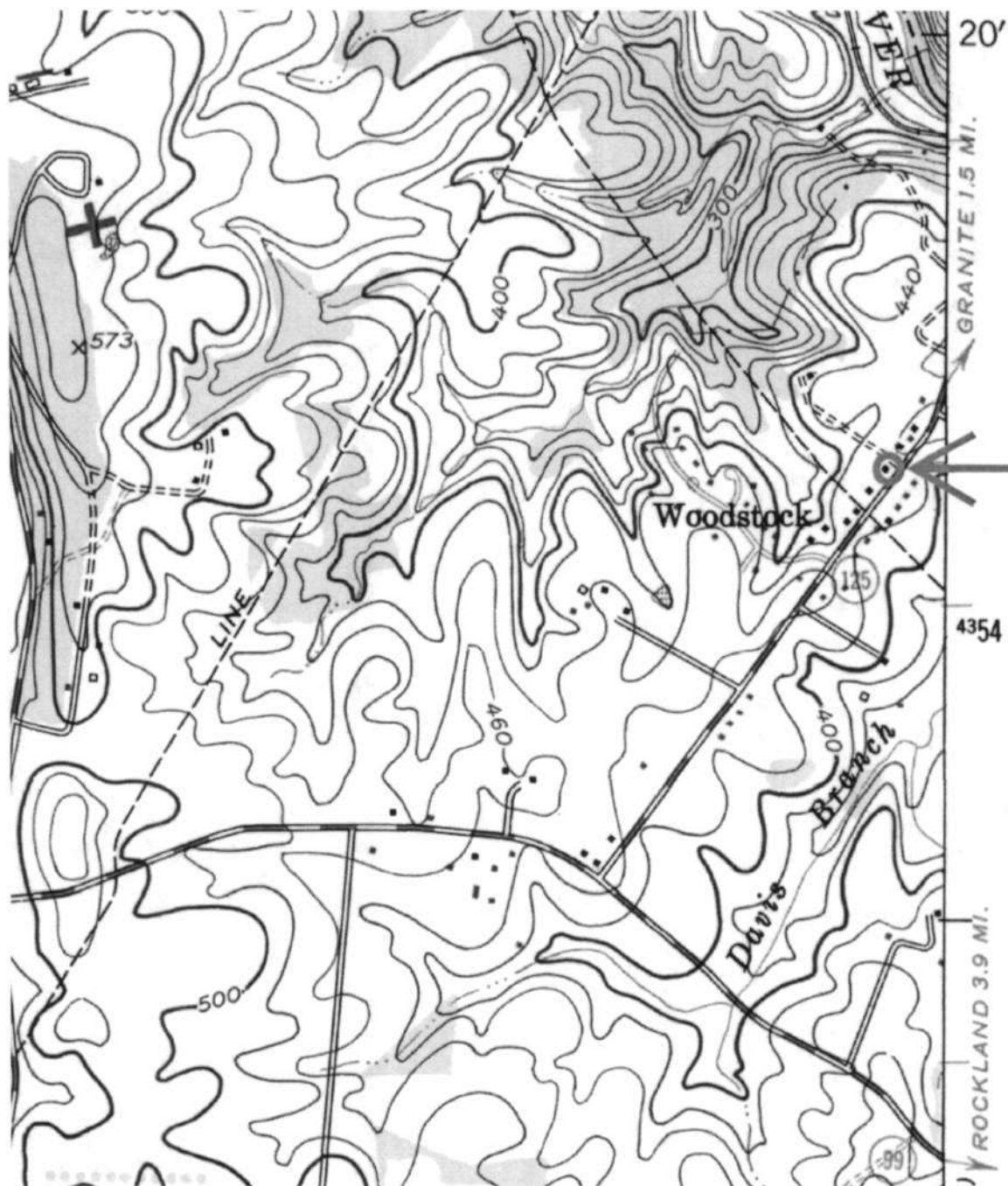
11. Form Prepared by

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| name/title | Ken Short | | |
| organization | Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning | date | December 2011 |
| street & number | 3430 Courthouse Drive | telephone | 410-313-4335 |
| city or town | Ellicott City | state | MD |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



HO-1070
Fairbank House
1684 Woodstock Road
Sykesville quad

HO-1070
Fairbank House
1684 Woodstock Road
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1070_2011-11-02_01
Southwest & southeast elevations

HO-1070_2011-11-02_02
Southeast & northeast elevations



HO-1070

Fairbank House

1684 Woodstock Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

Southwest + southeast elevations
lot 2



HD-1070

Fairbank House

1684 Woodstock House

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

Southeast + northeast elevations

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